

DOCKET NO.: 204628US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

MICHIYASU KOMATSU

SERIAL NO: 09/805,035

FILED: MARCH 14, 2001

FOR: SILICON NITRIDE WEAR  
RESISTANT MEMBER AND  
MANUFACTURING METHOD  
THEREOF

:

: EXAMINER: GROUP, K.

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1755

:

1700 MAIL ROOM

MAR 14 2003

RECEIVED

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action of September 19, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph 0012 at page 5 to read as follows:

9, [0012] The wear resistant member of the present invention is one comprising a silicon nitride sintered body, the silicon nitride sintered body comprising silicon nitride, titanium nitride particles having a long axis of 1  $\mu$ m or less, and a grain boundary phase mainly containing a Si-R-Al-O-N compound (here, R denotes a rare earth element) in the ranges of from 75 to 97% by mass, from 0.2 to 5% by mass and from 2 to 20% by mass, respectively.

Please amend paragraph [0022] at pages 9-10 to read as follows: